

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ANKARA 03518 100649Z

13

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 FEA-02 EB-11

COME-00 TRSE-00 SCI-06 INT-08 CU-04 CIEP-02 /171 W

----- 102533

R 091026Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4002

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3518

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, SA

SUBJ: TURKISH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA

REF: JIDDA 2410

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS MFA SEC GEN EREZ'S ACCOUNT OF RECENT ERBAKAN VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA, WHICH HAS GENERALLY MET WITH CRITICAL RECEPTION HERE. END SUMMARY.

1. DURING LENGTHY MAY 8 MEETING WITH MFA SEC GEN EREZ, HE GAVE ME AN ACCOUNT OF DEPPRIMIN ERBAKAN'S RECENT VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA. (OTHER TOPICS COVERED IN THIS MEETING ARE REPORTED SEPTELS.) EREZ, WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION, SAID A VISIT AT THIS TIME WAS VERY IMPORTANT FOR TURKISH-SAUDI RELATIONS IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH HIGH-LEVEL, FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT AT A TIME WHEN SEEMINGLY EVERYONE ELSE WAS ALSO MAKING THE TREK TO RIYADH IN SEARCH OF PETROLEUM. (HE NOTED THAT THERE WAS A LARGE NUMBER OF OTHER DELEGATIONS IN RIYADH AT SAME TIME TURKS WERE THERE.)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ANKARA 03518 100649Z

2. EREZ SAID THE TWO COUNTRIES HAD BEEN CONSIDERING FOR SOME TIME THE CULTURAL, COMMERCIAL, AND BASIC TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS, WHICH WERE SIGNED DURING THE VISIT. HE SAID THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT WAS SIMILAR TO ONES PREVIOUSLY SIGNED WITH IRAQ AND SYRIA. THE COMMERCIAL AGREEMENT IS INTENDED TO ENCOURAGE BILATERAL TRADE ON A FREE EXCHANGE BASIS AND HOPEFULLY WILL HELP REDUCE TURKEY'S MAMMOTH TRADE DEFICIT WITH SAUDI ARABIA. THE AGREEMENT DID NOT, HOWEVER, RESOLVE ALL THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES (E.G., "MOST FAVORED NATION" STATUS), ON WHICH NEGOTIATIONS WILL CONTINUE. EREZ SAID THE MAIN PROVISION OF THE BASIC AGREEMENT ON TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION ESTABLISHES A MIXED BILATERAL COMMITTEE WHICH WILL MEET EVERY SIX MONTHS TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS IN THE AREA.

3. REGARDING A SUPPLY OF SAUDI PETROLEUM FOR TURKEY (WIDELY REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN THE MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF THE VISIT), EREZ SAID THAT NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED BECAUSE THE SAUDIS DO NOT AT PRESENT HAVE AVAILABLE AN UNCOMMITTED STOCK OF PARTICIPATORY OIL (I.E., OIL OWNED BY THE SAUDI GOVERNMENT) FROM WHICH TO SUPPLY TURKEY. HOWEVER, THE SAUDIS HAD SHOWN INTEREST IN TURKEY'S PROBLEM AND HAD INDICATED "THEY WOULD DO THEIR BEST" TO BE HELPFUL.

4. DESPITE EREZ'S REMARKS, WHICH WERE CLEARLY INTENDED TO PORTRAY VISIT IN BEST POSSIBLE LIGHT, ERBAKAN'S EFFORTS HAVE MET WITH GENERALLY CRITICAL RECEPTION HERE. PRESS HAS CONTENDED HE CAME AWAY WITH LITTLE IN WAY OF SPECIFIC ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS (E.G., SALES OF TURKISH-PRODUCED SMALL ARMS TO SAUDI ARABIA OR SAUDI INVESTMENT IN TURKEY), AND HAS DESCRIBED THREE AGREEMENTS WHICH WERE SIGNED AS BEING OF NO GREAT CONSEQUENCE. OPPOSITION PARTIES IN PARLIAMENT NOTABLY JUSTICE PARTY SENATORS CAGLAYANGIL AND INAN, HAVE ATTACKED ERBAKAN'S ALLEGED EFFORTS TOWARD CLOSER RELIGIONS AND POLITICAL TIES WITH SAUDI ARABIA AS VIOLATING THE CONCEPT OF A SECULAR, WESTERN-ORIENTED REPUBLIC CONTAINED IN THE TURKISH CONSTITUTION. DESPITE THESE CRITICISMS, TURKEY DOES APPEAR TO HAVE GAINED SOMETHING POLITICALLY FROM VISIT. ACCORDING TO COMMUNIQUE (BEING TRANSMITTED BY AIRGRAN), SAUDI ARABIA EXPRESSED COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR GOT DEMANDS

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ANKARA 03518 100649Z

("TALEPLER"-ALSO TRANSLATED AS DESIRES) REGARDING CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN.

5. COMMENT: SEVERAL MFA OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD US THAT, DESPITE THE ERBAKAN VISIT AND FONMIN GUNE'S ATTENDANCE AT THE LAHORE ISLAMIC SUMMIT MEETING, THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN TURKEY'S FOREIGN POLICY. GOT, THEY SAY, HAS MERELY FOLLOWED EXAMPLES OF OTHER COUNTRIES, INCLUDING US,

IN TRYING TO MAKE DEALS WITH SAUDI ARABIA. JUDGING BY
GENERALLY CRITICAL RECEPTION HERE, THE ERBAKAN VISIT WOULD
SEEM TO HAVE BEEN BY AND LARGE UNSUCCESSFUL FROM THE
TURKISH VIEWPOINT. FOR EXAMPLE, EREZ HIMSELF, IN PRIVATE
COMMENTS TO ME AT DINNER EARLIER IN THE WEEK, HAD
DESCRIBED THE TRIP AS A QUESTIONABLE EXERCISE, AND
INFLUENTIAL SENATOR INAN, AT DINNER HOSTED LAST EVENING,
MADE IT CLEAR HE THOUGHT THE TRIP WAS "UNWISE AND
UNSUCCESSFUL".

6. WHILE THE VISIT MAY HAVE HELPED REENFORCE ERBAKAN'S
OWN APPEAL TO STRONGLY RELIGIOUS VOTERS, IT SEEMS TO HAVE
BEEN A FRESH EMBARRASSMENT FOR HIS SECULAR, WESTERN-
ORIENTED PARTNERS. CONSEQUENTLY, DIVERGENCES WITHIN THE
COALITION HAVE BEEN FRESHLY UNDERLINED.
MACOMBER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ANKARA03518
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740114-0337
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740562/aaaacdnb.tel
Line Count: 131
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: JIDDA 2410
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 AUG 2002 by WorrelSW>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT TO SAUDI ARABIA
TAGS: PFOR, TU, SA, (ERBAKAN, NECMETTIN), (EREZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005